REMARKS

Applicants cancel claims 1 and 2. Claims 3-23 remain pending in the application. Applicants amend claims 4 and 5 to independent form and amend claims 6-7 and 21-22 to depend therefrom, respectively. Applicants amend claim 3 for clarification. No new matter has been added.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's finding that claims 4-23 contain allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants amend claims 4 and 5 to independent form and amend claims 6-7 and 21-22 to depend therefrom, respectively. Applicants respectfully request that claims 4 and 5, together with claims 6-7, 9-10, 12-13, 15-16, 18-19, and 21-22 dependent therefrom, respectively, be allowed. Applicants further submit that claim 3, as demonstrated below, is allowable over the Examiner's cited reference, and, accordingly, request that the Examiner allow claims 8, 11, 14, 17, 20, and 23, which depend from claim 3.

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0044618 to Buchwald et al. Applicants cancel claims 1-2 and amend claim 3 in a good faith effort to clarify the invention as distinguished from the cited reference. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

With reference to Fig. 3 thereof, Buchwald et al. describe a phase controller 302 in which phase control signal rotator 304 stores the digital control signals 340 applied to phase interpolator 306, and manipulate the same in response to the rotator control commands 354. In short, the phase of timing/sampling signal 208 is controlled on the basis of the rotator commands 354. Meanwhile the rotator commands 354 derive from an error between two sampling and quantizing processes using respective sampling signals 208 and 344.

Therefore, Buchwald et al. fail to disclose or suggest,

> "[a] parallel signal automatic phase adjusting circuit having a number of data signal channels inputted together with a clock signal and adjusting the clock signal so that each clock signal is synchronized with each of the data signals, the parallel signal automatic phase adjusting circuit comprising:
>
> adjusting circuits provided in correspondence to the respective data signal channels for effecting adjustment on the clock signal generated from the oscillating circuit so that the clock signal is synchronized with the corresponding data signal: wherein
>
> each of the adjusting circuits is arranged to include a phase comparator for comparing the clock signal and the data signal in phase and outputting a phase difference signal as a result of the comparing, and
>
> a trigonometric function calculating unit for performing a phase shift operation of the clock signal by the phase difference thereby effecting adjustment on the clock signal so that the clock signal is synchronized with the data signal, based on trigonometric function calculation using the phase difference signal outputted from the phase comparator as a parameter," as recited in claim 3. (Emphasis added)

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 3 is patentable over Buchwald et al. for at least the above-stated reasons.

The above statements on the disclosure in the cited reference represent the present opinions of the undersigned attorney. The Examiner is respectfully requested to specifically indicate those portions of the reference that provide the basis for a view contrary to any of the above-stated opinions.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's implicit finding that the additional U.S. patents and publications made of record, but not applied, do not render the claims of the present application unpatentable, whether these references are considered alone or in combination with others.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider

this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

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